Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico

Region 6 REOC Update

Subject:	**Region 6 Update # 18** **Deepwater Horizon Incident, Gulf of Mexico**
Date:	May 15, 2010
To:	Incident Command
Thru:	Planning Section
From:	Situation Unit
Operational Period:	May 14, 2010 2401 – May 14, 2010 2400
Reporting Period:	May 14, 2010 2401 – May 15, 2010 1300

1. Background

Site Name:	Deepwater Horizon Incident	**FPN#:**	N10036
Mobilization Date:	4/27/2010	**Start Date:**	4/28/2010

2. Current Situation

- Incident Status Summary as reported by NOAA for 5/13:
    - Total response vessels: 559
    - Containment boom deployed: over 1.2 million feet
    - Containment boom available: over 300,000 feet
    - Sorbent boom deployed: over 385,000 feet
    - Sorbent boom available: over 870,000 feet
    - Boom deployed: over 1.5 million feet (regular plus sorbent and fire boom)
    - Boom available: over 1 million feet (regular plus sorbent and fire boom)
    - Oily water recovered: more than 6 million gallons
    - Dispersant used: over 517,000 gallons
    - Dispersant available: more than 250,000 gallons
    - Overall personnel responding: more than 17,000.

2.1 (USCG) Incident Command Post (Houma, LA)

- EPA finalized request for sampling of oil/dispersant by BP contractors for analysis to EPA Houston lab.
- EPA coordinated with federal partners and BP representatives regarding monitoring/sampling of surface and subsurface dispersant impacts to ensure all parties are aware of all activities.
- EPA gathered and coordinated sampling plans from other unified command agencies to incorporate into comprehensive sampling tracking spreadsheet.

- EPA participated on conference call with HQ, R4, and R6 on waste management issues. EPA continued coordination with BP waste representatives on the BP waste plan.

- EPA ERT submitted their final air sampling plan to Unified Command for approval.

- Deepwater dispersant application began on 5/15 at about 0300 hours. Application will continue until 1130 at which time BP will try a new attempt to insert a spear into the riser.

- No in-situ burn operations will happen on 5/15 because of unfavorable weather (heavy rain). Burns will be attempted on 5/16.

- BP dispersant team has indicated the possibility of using a dispersant trade name Sea-Brat #4. (Reference: http://www.alabastercorp.com/seabrat.htm)

- BP SCAT teams report a total of 27 miles of shoreline as "oiled" with one (1) mile considered "heavy oiled".

2.2 (USCG) Area Command Post (Robert, LA)

- The Area Command Environmental Unit leadership continues to coordinate overall strategies for monitoring subsurface dispersed oil plumes.

2.3 Air Monitoring/Sampling

- EPA continues to conduct air monitoring and sampling in Venice operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
    - Venice, LA - 29.25274 N, 89.35750 W - V02;
    - Boothville, LA - 29.31449 N, 89.38433 W - V03;
    - Fort Jackson, LA – 29.35699 N, 89.45487 W – V05.
- EPA continues to conduct air monitoring and sampling in Chalmette operations area (VOCs and Particulates):
    - Poydras, LA – 29.86609, -89.89108 – C02 - located at Fire Station number 8;
    - Chalmette, LA - 29.96082, -90.00132 - C04 – located at FireStation on Aycock St.
    - Hopedale, LA, - 29.84049, -89.68980 - C05 located at Fire Station number 11.
- Each air monitoring location has 5 pieces of air equipment:
    - DataRAM - monitoring particulate matter PM10 (Serve as back-ups to EBAMs);
    - EBAM (Particulate Monitors)-equipment will replace DataRAM's;
    - AreaRae/MultiRae - monitoring VOCs;
    - PQ200 - samples for PM2.5;
    - SUMMA Canisters per location - sample for VOCs.
- All air monitoring/sampling stations are monitored throughout the day (24 hours) for immediate reporting of any elevated VOC or particulate levels. The maximum reading is reported to the OSC at Area Command Post in Venice and Chalmette.

- Real-time air monitoring data from midnight to midnight each day is reviewed for field QA and uploaded into SCRIBE by 1200 each day and available to EPA Headquarters.

- Venice air operations reported action level exceedences for H2S (0.5 ppm) at locations V02 and V03. The highest reported H2S level at station V02 is 0.7 ppm and at station V03 is 0.8 ppm.

EPA summary of air monitoring/sampling activities:

Air Monitoring & Samples	DataRAM (PM10)	AreaRae	SUMMA Canisters	PM2.5	TOTALS FOR 5/12
Venice	3 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	9	3	12
Chalmette	2 locs/24-hr	3 locs/24-hr	6	3	9
TOTAL TO DATE	6 locs/24-hr	6 locs/24-hr	203	84	

*QAQC samples not included in sample count

2.4 Water/Sediment Sampling

- EPA continues to conduct water and sediment sampling at locations provided by EPA Headquarters and selected through National Coastline Condition Assessment (NCCA) program. The NCCA sample locations are sampled every four years by state agencies with U.S. Coastlines. Sample parameters and locations were also selected in coordination with the EPA Region 6 Water Quality Division.

- Representatives from the Water Division and the REOC Environmental Units from R6 and R4 conduct a conference call three times a week with the HQ EOC to discuss the coordination and consistency of water and sediment sampling across the Deepwater Horizon Incident Response.

- On 5/14, Venice water operations were not conducted due to poor weather conditions. Water operations are planned for 5/15 weather conditions permitting.

- On 5/14, Chalmette water operations were deployed from Coco Marina in Cocodrie, LA, and travel west to collect samples from pre-identified locations. No oiled wildlife observed, no oil odors detected, and no visual oil sightings. Water operations are planned for 5/15 weather conditions permitting.

EPA summary of water/sediment activities:

Water/Sediment Samples	Water	Sediment	TOTALS FOR 5/12
Venice	0	0	0
Chalmette	6	6	12
TOTAL TO DATE	75	67	

*QAQC samples not included in sample count

2.5 TAGA

- TAGA 1553 is on standby and is planned to conduct monitoring beginning on 5/17.

2.6 ASPECT

- On 5/14, no ASPECT missions were flown.

- ASPECT is on station in Gulfport, MS as of 1530 on 5/14. A short flight was conducted to test all systems in preparation for possible burn operations on 5/15, and all systems are operational. ASPECT is coordinating flight plans with Incident Command in Houma, LA.

2.7 Water Quality Protection Division Update

- Water Quality Protection Division situation update is attached.

3. EPA Assets

3.1 Current Assets Deployed

- Activated in Dallas, TX
  - REOC activated
  - SRICT activated
  - RRT activated

Deployed Personnel

Personnel	Dallas, TX	Venice, LA	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
EPA								
- OSC	3	1		1		1		6
- RSC	5		1	1				7
- PIO			3					3
- Other	3		2	1	1	1		8
START	5	11				16		32
ERT Contractor		1						1
TAGA Personnel							5	5
ASPECT Personnel							4	4
Other								
TOTALS	16	13	6	3	1	18	9	66

Deployed Equipment

Equipment	Dallas, TX	Venice, LA	Robert, LA	Houma, LA	New Orleans, LA	Chalmette, LA	Slidell, LA	TOTALS
Mobile Command Post		1						1
ASPECT							1	1
TAGA Bus							1	1
LRV			1			1		2
Gooseneck Trailer		1						1
20 KW Generator		1						1

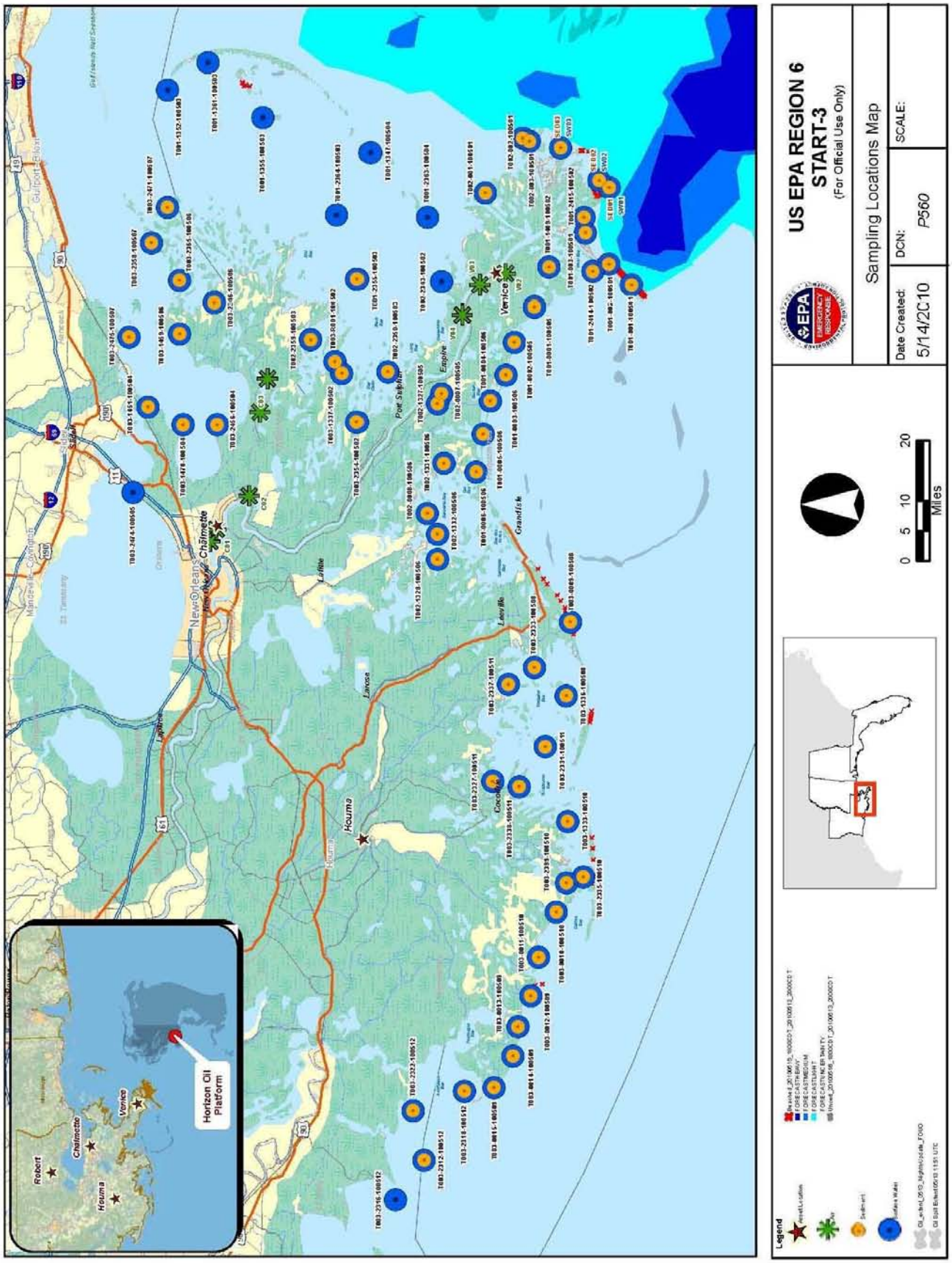
* One TAGA bus has been assigned to Region 4 Operations

4. Daily Cost Estimates

	Est. Personnel Cost	Est. Travel Cost	Est. Contracts/ Purchase Spent	Total Est. Cost/Spent	Total Contract/ Purchase Oblig.	Total USCG PRFA Ceiling	Balance	Est. Daily Burn Rate	Days left
USCG PRFA FPN N10036	$227,600	$99,697	$1,797,000	$2,124,297	$3,158,713	$4,420,084	$2,295,787	$162,347	14
TOTAL EPA FUNDED	$227,600	$99,697	$1,797,000	$2,124,297	$3,158,713	$4,420,084	$2,295,787	$162,347	14
Region 6 Indirect Rate 13.12%						$579,916			
Louisiana Total	$227,600	$99,697	$1,797,000	$2,124,297	$3,158,713	$5,000,000	$2,295,787	$162,347	14

Figure 1 – Plane carrying aerial dispersant prepares for dispersant operations.

Monitoring/Sampling Locations



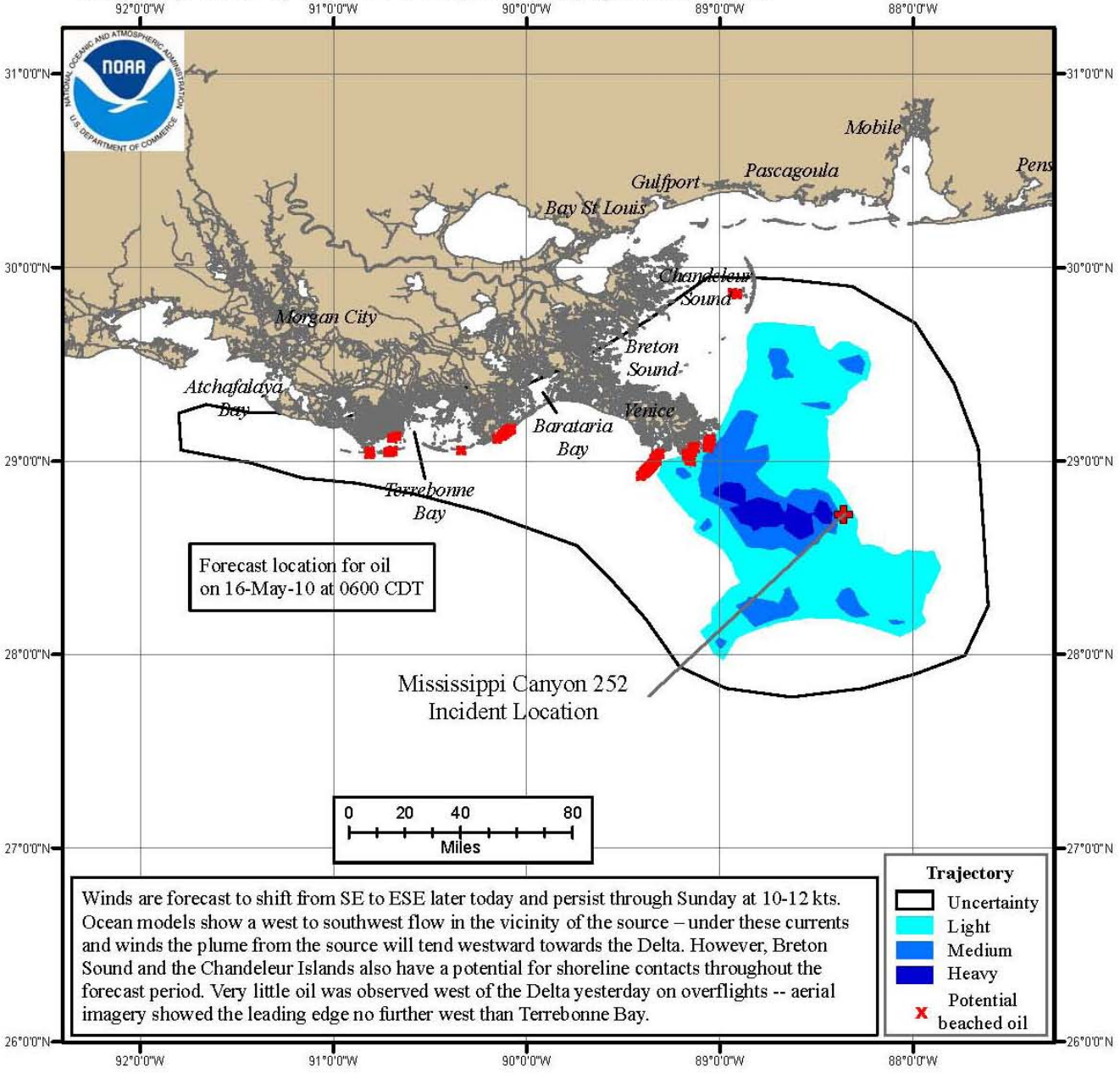
Trajectory Forecast
Mississippi Canyon 252

NOAA/NOS/OR&R

Estimate for: 0600 CDT, Sunday, 5/16/10

Date Prepared: 1300 CDT, Friday, 5/14/10

This forecast is based on the NWS spot forecast from Friday, May 14 AM. Currents were obtained from several models (NOAA Gulf of Mexico, West Florida Shelf/USF, Texas A&M/TGLO, NAVO/NRL) and HFR measurements. The model was initialized from Wednesday satellite imagery analysis (NOAA/NESDIS) and overflight observations. The leading edge may contain tarballs that are not readily observable from the imagery (hence not included in the model initialization). Oil near bay inlets could be brought into that bay by local tidal currents.



Winds are forecast to shift from SE to ESE later today and persist through Sunday at 10-12 kts. Ocean models show a west to southwest flow in the vicinity of the source – under these currents and winds the plume from the source will tend westward towards the Delta. However, Breton Sound and the Chandeleur Islands also have a potential for shoreline contacts throughout the forecast period. Very little oil was observed west of the Delta yesterday on overflights -- aerial imagery showed the leading edge no further west than Terrebonne Bay.

this scale bar shows the meaning of the distribution terms at the current time

Next Forecast: May 15th AM